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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m.

The Reverend Monsignor James G. Kelly, St. Margaret's Church, Buffalo, New York, offered the following prayer:

Heavenly Father, Lord of creation, all praise and thanks to You for the commission and gifts which You have given to us Your children to continue Your work in the world through the formation and fostering of civilization on this earth. Praise and thanks to You for this blessed Republic of ours and for the women and men who serve willingly and generously in its governance. Look with favor on the elected Members of this House of Representatives, bless them and guide them that they may not only enact laws that are just but also be the voice of those who have no voice, the most vulnerable and marginal of our society. Help these men and women to be persons who lead through the example of honesty, reverence for our traditions and integrity. Praise and thanks to You, our God, forever. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from New York (Mr. LAFALCE) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. LAFALCE led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The gentleman from New York (Mr. LAFALCE) will be recognized for 1 minute. All other 1-minutes will be postponed until the end of the day.

WELCOMING THE REVEREND MONSIGNOR JAMES G. KELLY

Mr. LAFALCE. Mr. Speaker, I want to both welcome and thank Monsignor Jim Kelly from St. Margaret's Roman Catholic Church on Hertel Avenue in Buffalo, New York, for coming here this morning and offering the opening prayer.

When I was a very young man coming out of law school, I was hired by one of the most prominent firms in Buffalo, Jackle, Fleischman, Kelly Swart, and Ausberger. It was Monsignor Kelly's dad, Harry Kelly, one of the best trial lawyers western New York has ever seen, who gave me my initial start. His sister Therese and her husband Tom bought a home just two doors away from the home that I lived in on Starin Avenue in the Town of Tonawanda.

The name Kelly is very, very Irish, but he ministers with great care and love and compassion to the parishioners of St. Margaret's, which is over 70 percent Italian American. He, in addition to that, tries, probably harder than anyone else, to promote peace and justice within the Diocese of Buffalo, because he is the Chairman of the Peace and Justice Commission for the Diocese of Buffalo.

Monsignor Kelly, we welcome you here today and we also say to you, one day late, Happy Birthday.

DISAPPROVAL OF NORMAL TRADE RELATIONS TREATMENT TO PRODUCTS OF VIETNAM

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to the previous order of the House, I

call up the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 55) disapproving the extension of the waiver authority contained in section 402(c) of the Trade Act of 1974 with respect to Vietnam, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the title of the joint resolution.

The text of H.J. Res. 55 is as follows:

H.J. Res. 55

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Congress does not approve the extension of the authority contained in section 402(c) of the Trade Act of 1974 recommended by the President to the Congress on June 1, 2001, with respect to Vietnam.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HASTINGS of Washington). Pursuant to the order of the House of Wednesday, July 25, 2001, the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMAS) and the gentleman from California (Ms. SANCHEZ) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMAS).

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to yield one-half of my time to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) the ranking member of the Subcommittee on Trade of the Committee on Ways and Means and that he be permitted to yield the time as he sees fit.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to House Joint Resolution 55 and, therefore, in support of extending Vietnam's Jackson-Vanik waiver. I believe this waiver represents the best hope for continued political and economic reform in Vietnam and, therefore, greater market access for American companies in one of Southeast Asia's most important emerging economies.

These three key issues come to bear on this question: Has Vietnam made

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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